

Date: Sun, 19 Dec 93 20:32:06 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #1483  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Sun, 19 Dec 93                      Volume 93 : Issue 1483

Today's Topics:

                    AEA question  
                    Arizona repeater info needed  
                    ARLD069 DX news  
                    ARLP050 Propagation de KT7H  
                    ARRL's callsign admin position  
                    ARRL Letter December 14, 1993  
                    I'm a "young" enthusiast...  
                    rec.radio.amateur.propagation ?  
                    Where are all the young enthusiasts?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: 15 Dec 1993 22:28:15 GMT  
From: metro!basser.cs.su.oz.au!harbinger.cc.monash.edu.au!msuinfo!agate!  
howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!sdd.hp.com!caen!malgudi.oar.net!  
news.yzu.edu!yfn.yzu.edu!@munnnari.oz.au  
Subject: AEA question  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In a previous article, janc@icebox.iceonline.com (Jan Chojnacki) says:

>Just a quick question for someone who may be in the know..  
>I've been somewhat out of the hobby for the last few months since I'd returned  
>to school to furthur my education, so when the notice went out, I didn't hear  
>about it at all. I've been told that AEA is no longer producing Amateur Radio  
>oriented products - is this fact or fiction? It it's true, does anyone know

>what the reasons behind this decision were, and who, if anyone, will continue  
>product support for such things as the TNC's?  
>  
>Jan Chojnacki  
>VE7FJC  
>  
> \*\*\* ICE Online, Canada's COOLEST online service! \*\*\*  
> Opinions expressed in this article are not necessarily those of ICE Online.  
>

Well this is certainly news to me.. I just sent them back some of their software  
I was testing for an article. They have recently sent out new catalogues  
and have come out with many new products.. and even remember hearing  
that they had bought out another company.

might want to check your source again

73

--

Jeff M. Gold, AC4HF  
Manager, Academic Computing Support  
Tennessee Technological University

-----  
Date: Sat, 18 Dec 1993 06:29:57 GMT  
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!  
asuvax!ennews!anasaz!john@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Arizona repeater info needed  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Cecil\_A\_Moore@ccm.hf.INTel.COM (Cecil A Moore) writes:

>Text item: Text\_1

>>I've heard of the Northlink system, and ZIA. Do either of  
>>these get into Phoenix?  
>>-Paul Christofanelli KG0CZ Fort Collins, Colorado

>Northlink indeed does get into Phoenix on four repeaters:

>North Phoenix area: Towers Mtn 449.175

>East Phoenix area: MT. Ord 444.500  
Currently off the air until the ARA tower is replaced.

>South Phoenix area: So. Mtn. 442.125

>West Phoenix area: White Tanks Mtns: 441.675

>73, Cecil, kg7bk... I do not speak for Intel on Internet.

--

DISCLAIMER: These views are mine alone, and do not reflect my employer's!  
John Moore 7525 Clearwater Pkwy, Scottsdale, AZ 85253 USA (602-951-9326)  
john@anasazi.com Amateur call:NJ7E Civil Air Patrol:Thunderbird 381  
- - Support ALL ...erk glugh mmpph.... Memory fault (core dumped)

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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 05:45:29 -0700

From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!math.ohio-state.edu!  
cyber2.cyberstore.ca!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!cs.ubc.ca!scapa.cs.ualberta.ca!adec23!ve6mgs!  
usenet@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: ARLD069 DX news  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SB DX @ ARL \$ARLD069  
ARLD069 DX news

ZCZC AE95  
QST de W1AW  
DX Bulletin 69 ARLD069  
>From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT December 16, 1993  
To all radio amateurs

SB DX ARL ARLD069  
ARLD069 DX news

Thanks to Tedd, KB8NW; Don, KJ6TC/9K2WR and the Ohio/Penn and Yankee  
Clipper Contest Club PacketCluster Networks for the items in this  
week's bulletin.

WALVIS BAY. Ian, ZS9A, has been on 21335 kHz SSB with a DX Net  
group at 1400z, and 21087 kHz RTTY around 1545z. He also sneaks up  
onto 10 meters from time to time. The possibility of South Africa  
turning control of Walvis over to Namibia could have some affect on  
the DXCC status of ZS9. Smart money says to work this one now if  
you haven't already.

GHANA. Peter, XT2BW, is scheduled to leave Burkina Faso at the end  
of January. He will vacation for two or three months in Ghana with  
his family. Of course he plans to apply for a license and hopes to  
be active. QSL via WB2YQH.

PACIFIC ISLAND HOPPING. Akio, JA3JM, will be on a Pacific DXpedition during late December and early January. Plans are for CW, SSB and RTTY on 160 through 10 meters and OSCAR 13. The schedule is December 20 through 23 from American Samoa as AA5K/AH8, December 24 through 30 from Niue as ZK2XJ, December 31 through January 2 from the Southern Cooks as ZK1AJM, and January 2 through 5 from Western Samoa as 5W1AS. QSL all contacts via JA3JM.

MALDIVE ISLANDS. Carlo, I4ALU, will sign 8Q7BX from December 26 to January 6. Activity will be CW only on 80 through 10 meters.

NAURU. Mine, JA2NQG, will solo as C21/AH0F from December 28 through January 3. He will concentrate on 160, 80 and 40 meter CW. QSL via JA2NQG.

SVALBARD. Lars, LA5EBA, plans a six month operation as JW5EBA starting in mid January. His tour of duty will be working at a meteorological station on Hopen Island.

NEPAL. 9N1HP was recently active on 7008 kHz from 1200 to 1230z. The operator was JA10EM.

THE WAIT FOR KUWAIT. Don, KJ6TC, reports that after a year and a half of waiting he has finally received the logs for his 9K2WR operation. Processing of QSLs will be DX first, then US, and finally bureau cards.

NNNN  
/EX

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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 08:28:47 -0700  
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!math.ohio-state.edu!  
cyber2.cyberstore.ca!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!cs.ubc.ca!scapa.cs.ualberta.ca!adec23!ve6mgs!  
usenet@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: ARLP050 Propagation de KT7H  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SB PROP @ ARL \$ARLP050  
ARLP050 Propagation de KT7H

ZCZC AP12  
QST de W1AW  
Propagation Forecast Bulletin 50 ARLP050

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Date: 14 Dec 93 12:58:41 EST

From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!cs.utexas.edu!  
sdd.hp.com!ncr-sd!ncrhub2!ncrgw2.ncr.com!psinnntp!arrl.org@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: ARRL's callsign admin position  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, rcrw90@email.mot.com (Mike Waters) writes:

>I think you would find them even more so in person. The ARRL headquarters  
>is \*well\* worth visiting if only for that!

>I have been there twice (hopefully again this summer :-), once in 1964, and  
>again in 1980. The most impressive difference was how everything had  
>grown! The sheer size of everything was impressive, yet somehow they still  
>manage to remain very well focused on both amateur radio and the individual  
>amateur.

>I will be interested to see the changes since 1980!

Well, Mike, if you do, let me know in advance. I will gladly give you  
a tour of the facilities! A tour of the ARRL HQ is given on the  
hour, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 to 4:00. One of our staff  
will be asked to show you around.

If you would like to read about it, an electronic tour of HQ is  
available by email from our ARRL Electronic Mail Server (info@arrl.org).  
(send ARRL-TOUR).

If any of you all do stop by HQ, make sure to look me up!

73 and Happy Holidays from ARRL HQ, Ed -- KA1CV

-----  
Ed Hare, KA1CV  
American Radio Relay League  
225 Main St.  
Newington, CT 06111  
(203) 666-1541 - voice  
ARRL Laboratory Supervisor  
RFI, xmtr and rcvr testing  
-----

ehare@arrl.org

My posts and views do not necessarily  
represent the policy of the ARRL,  
but I can probably get in trouble  
for them anyway!

-----  
Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 15:06:04 GMT  
From: netcomsv!netcom.com!marcbg@decwrl.dec.com  
Subject: ARRL Letter December 14, 1993  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The ARRL Letter  
Vol. 12, No. 23  
December 14, 1993

FCC proposes choice of call sign

The FCC on December 13 proposed that amateurs be able to choose their own call signs, once a new automated processing system is in place at the Commission's Private Radio Bureau.

Under the proposed system, amateurs wishing to apply for an available call sign would be required to file a form and pay a fee.

Trustees of club and military recreation stations also would be eligible for the new program. The FCC cancelled a rule it adopted last summer establishing a call sign administrator program for amateur club and military stations, a program that was never implemented.

The FCC said that at the present time call sign selection by new licensees was not feasible, but left the door open for that possibility in the future.

The FCC said that the new PRB computer might eventually allow amateurs to check for themselves the availability of call signs, and that the new system might be used to allow electronic filing of applications, making the process easier for applicant and FCC alike.

At the meeting today, the first under new FCC Chairman Reed Hundt, Private Radio Bureau staff began by telling the FCC commissioners that recent Nobel Prize winners Joseph Taylor and Russell Hulse had begun their scientific education as radio amateurs.

The vanity call sign plan was unanimously approved by the four FCC commissioners. The text of the Notice of Proposed Rule Making is expected to be issued shortly.

222 MHz: Novices get more, weak-signal band OK'd

The FCC has acted to expand privileges for Novice class licensees on the 222-MHz band as well as to create a subband for weak signal work on that band. The changes approved by the FCC in a Report and Order released December 2, 1993, were first proposed in an FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making in November, 1992 (PR Docket 92-289) in response to petitions for rule making from the ARRL. The effective date for the new rules is February 1, 1994.

Expanded novice privileges

The new rules authorize Novice operation in the entire 222-225 MHz (1.25 meter) band. Novices currently have access to 222.10-223.91 MHz, an allocation created in the 1987 Novice Enhancement proceeding. At that time the League sought full access for Novices to the (then) 220-225

MHz band. The FCC's 1987 Report and Order, however, limited Novices to 222.10-223.91 MHz.

In support of its latest proposal to the FCC, the League said expanding Novice frequency privileges to include the entire 1.25 meter band made sense since Novices already are permitted to use SSB and CW on portions of the HF bands, and there was no reason why they should not be permitted to utilize those same modes in the entirety of the 222-225 MHz band, where other licensees use those modes.

The FCC agreed with the ARRL that allowing Novices privileges on the entire 222 MHz band was a good idea, saying that the changes would allow Novices to become proficient in a wider variety of amateur service operations and give them more flexibility in selecting the mode of transmission.

Choosing the appropriate mode would result in a more efficient use of available spectrum, the FCC said.

Not repeater control operators

In PR Docket 92-289, the FCC also proposed that Novices be authorized to be licensees and control operators of repeaters on the 222 and 1240 MHz bands. The ARRL opposed this idea, as it had during the Novice Enhancement proceeding in 1987. The FCC in its final ruling agreed, saying that Novices lack knowledge about repeater operation. The Commission also noted that allowing Novices to be control operators would diminish the distinction between the Novice and Technician classes.

Experimentation encouraged

The League also proposed that a weak signal segment be established at the bottom of the 222 MHz band, at 222.0 to 222.15 MHz, similar to what previously existed at 220.0 to 220.5 MHz. Repeater and auxiliary operation will, beginning February 1, be prohibited from 222 to 222.15 MHz.

The League said its proposal was in response to amateurs' loss in August 1991 of 220-222 MHz to the land mobile service, and that a weak-signal subband, which could not be enforced through voluntary agreements or formalized band-planning by amateurs, was necessary to allow amateurs to carry on experiments in propagation and operating techniques.

Some repeater operators, nearly all in southern California, said that severe crowding in the 222-225 MHz band there would make a 150-kHz subband untenable.

On the other hand, weak-signal operators said that the loss of 220-222 MHz most severely affected them, rather than repeater users, and that repeater owners and users in the 222-225 MHz band had been unwilling to accommodate other types of spectrum use.

The ARRL told the FCC that it remains persuaded that the issue reflects not any one group of amateurs refusing to accommodate another, but rather the difficulty of reaccommodating amateur users displaced from the 220-222 MHz segment.

The League noted that weak signal operators are entitled to pursue a variety of weak signal operations in some segment of the 222 MHz band, and such such operations are incompatible with repeater and auxiliary link operations on the same frequencies.

The League said that while it has always supported local, voluntary band-planning as a means to accommodate the interests of diverse groups of amateurs, such simply could not work in this case, and that current FCC staffing does not permit it to referee amateur-to-amateur disputes. Thus, a statutory subband seemed the only solution.

U.K. amateurs surveyed on HF no-code license

British amateurs are opposed to a code-free amateur license with HF privileges, an informal survey has shown.

The current U.K. Class B license, with privileges only on 50 MHz and above, is code-free; the Class A (HF) license requires a 12 wpm Morse code exam.

In 1992 the British Radiocommunications Agency asked the Radio Society of Great Britain to conduct a consultation exercise, a survey. Through articles in its journal, \*Radio Communications\*, and other British Amateur Radio publications, readers were asked to express their opinion on the subject. Out of 60,000 U.K. licensed amateurs, 1,413 responded, including 86 from overseas.

By a 2-to-1 margin the respondents opposed a code free HF license.

The RSGB said that with the worldwide amateur community expanding at some 7 percent per year, some method is needed to restrict access to the HF bands, which already are very crowded and unlikely to expand. It said that if the current method of restriction, CW, were eliminated, some other filter should be found.

It is the way in which numbers are limited to avoid intolerable levels of interference that is being questioned, the RSGB said.

The RSGB said that it is primarily up to the amateur community worldwide, and its elected representatives, to determine what qualifications are necessary and what standards need to be met to gain different types of transmitting licence.

Current International Telecommunication Union regulations requiring a Morse exam for an HF amateur license would have to be changed, through a petition process from

individual countries, the article said, although it also noted that Japan has a code-free license that allows limited amateur privileges below 30 MHz (10 watts output and excluding 20 and 17 meters -- ed).

The RSGB noted that Region 1 of the International Amateur Radio Union as recently as September had voted to support keeping a Morse code requirement for HF licenses. The RSGB said it currently agrees with that opinion but recognises that the situation may change in the next 5-10 years.

Here is a summary of survey arguments for and against a code-free U.K. license:

Against:

- \* Would reduce status of amateur service;
- \* Standards already too low;
- \* Would erode challenge to licensees;
- \* Would make U.K. a renegade among nations;
- \* CW fundamental to spirit of Amateur Radio;
- \* CW has communications advantages ;
- \* CW a common international language;
- \* CW alleviates HF overcrowding, encourages good operating.

For:

- \* CW a barrier to new licensees;
- \* Young people put off by Morse requirement;
- \* Morse no longer a communications necessity;
- \* Resultant band crowding would promote new technologies;
- \* CW is a relic, an artificial barrier
- \* Some people simply can't learn CW.

The RSGB also said that a significant number of people responding to the survey also favored some sort of incentive licensing in the U.K., with more levels of license than the current two. The RSGB said that two of its committees are studying the idea of some sort of incentive licensing structure.

LICENSE RENEWALS TO  
BEGIN AGAIN IN 1994

Have you looked at the expiration date on your FCC license lately? Five years ago the term of an FCC amateur license went from five years to 10. So, for the past five years no licenses have expired. Licenses are now beginning to expire again, which means that \*it may be time for you to renew\*.

It's a good idea to renew at least 60 days before the expiration date on your current license. Use an FCC Form 610, available from ARRL Headquarters. If you submit a timely renewal application, you may continue to operate even

if the FCC doesn't act on the application by the expiration date. If your renewal is late, you must stop operating until your new license arrives.

Licenses that have expired for more than two years may not be renewed, which means you lose your call sign and will have to take the exam again. Don't take a chance - check your license expiration date now!

#### BRIEFS

\* The FCC has extended to January 11 the comment period in ET Docket 93-62, which proposes to adopt new guidelines for evaluating the environmental effects of RF radiation, based on petitions for more time from CBS and ABC.

The new guidelines would parallel those adopted in 1992 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and would impose stricter limitations on low-power devices such as hand-held transceivers and portable and cellular telephones.

\* The ARRL DX Advisory Committee has recommended the creation of an RTTY DXCC Honor Roll, to require the same number of RTTY countries as the Mixed Honor Roll. On December 14 the ARRL Awards Committee approved the new RTTY Honor Roll, to include all non-CW digital modes, including Baudot, packet, ASCII, and AMTOR.

The DXAC also voted to maintain the start date for CW DXCC at January 1, 1975 (rather than moving it back to 1945 to match Mixed and Phone DXCC).

\* The first private station DXCC application has been received from the People's Republic of China, from BZ4RBX of Nanjing. Operator Wang Long submitted 102 QSLs which, interestingly, did *not* include a card from his own country. The lucky American in this historic DXCC was K4MIH.

DXCCs have already been awarded to PRC *club* stations BY4RSA and BY5AC.

\* Those weird Canadian prefixes you hear are courtesy of Industry and Science Canada (their FCC), granted through the end of 1993 to mark Canada's new Amateur Radio national organization, the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC).

\* The FCC has added Bosnia-Herzegovina (T9) to the list of countries with which the United States has an Amateur Radio third-party agreement.

\* Manuscripts on antennas and propagation are being accepted through March 1, 1994, for Volume 4 of the ARRL *Antenna Compendium*. Prospective authors should contact Dean Straw, N6BV, at ARRL HQ.

\* 1994 ARRL National Exam Days have been set for May 14 and October 29. Details will be in February *QST* but you can start planning now by checking February, 1993 *QST*,

page 96.

\* Clean Sweep! We may not always be politically correct but we re diverse! With the recent addition of \*QST\* Managing Editor Al Brogdon, K3KMO, to the HQ staff, we now have every US call area represented on the full-time Newington payroll. For example: KR1R (Massachusetts); AA2Z (New Jersey); K3KMO (Maryland); KJ4KB (South Carolina); K5FUV (Arkansas); N6BV (California); KU7G (Washington); K8CH (Michigan); WB9RRU (Wisconsin); NT0Z (Minnesota); and even KH6CP.

\* In other staff news, Assistant Technical Editor Jim Kearman, KR1S, has transferred from the book team to the \*QST\* editorial team.

\* 13-year-old Nathan A. Taylor, WZ1W, of Gardner, Massachusetts is still missing after disappearing on August 27.

According to Gardner police, Nathan left of his own volition apparently under the influence of unidentified adults. Amateurs in Tennessee and Texas in particular are asked to keep his disappearance in mind; although an Extra Class amateur, Nathan s most recent interest has been in computers.

At least two agencies of the federal government are now involved in the search for Nathan. Anyone with information on Nathan is asked to call Detective Bill Grasmuck of the City of Gardner (Mass.) Police Department, at 508-632-5600.

\* Arthur Milne, G2MI, died October 6, 1993, at age 86. First licensed in 1924, he was a member of the RSGB Council for more than 30 years. He also was a Secretary of IARU Region 1 from 1950 to 1959.

He is probably best remembered as manager of the U.K. QSL Bureau, a post he held from the beginning of World War 2 until the early 1980s. Thousands of DXers have thus addressed envelopes to A.O. Milne.

Among his survivors are a son, G3UMI, and a grandson, G6VMI.

10 Years Ago in \*The ARRL Letter\*

Finally, the delayed first Amateur Radio operation from space was over, an unqualified success, yet it was relegated to an inside page of the December 8, 1983 issue of \*The ARRL Letter\*.

The reason? ARRL s president of just 20 months, Vic Clark, W4KFC, was dead, of a heart attack at age 66.

The next available issue of \*QST\* carried a major tribute to W4KFC. First Vice President Carl L. Smith, W0BWJ, assumed the League s presidency. Fittingly, Straight Key Night on December 31 was dedicated to W4KFC.

The \*Letter\* had a very early report on W5LFL/Shuttle. Astronaut Owen Garriott reported that noise inside the shuttle made copy somewhat difficult but that plenty of stations had been worked on 2-meter FM and more had been recorded on tape.

Profile: Director-elect Lew Gordon, K4VX

ARRL Midwest Division Director-elect Lew Gordon, K4VX, lives in Hannibal, Missouri. Lew is 64 and retired as an electronic systems engineer for an agency of the federal government.

Lew was born in Wabash, Indiana, grew up in Indianapolis, and began his Amateur Radio career as W9APY at age 17. He was a student at Purdue University when the Korean War heated up, and he enlisted in the US Air Force. He ended up an instructor at Keesler AFB in Biloxi, Mississippi, where one of his Air Force students was a young woman named Marie Teresa Girard. Lew asked Airman Girard if she'd like to see the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) station there (now K5TYP).

In 1954 Terry and Lew got married, and in 1955 Terry became K5BRQ -- General class on the first try.

After his Air Force hitch Lew went to work for the government, then returned to Purdue to finish a bachelor's degree in physics. The founder, John Purdue, suffered Greek and Latin as a youth and disallowed its use at the university, so Lew graduated in 1962 with distinction rather than \*cum laude\*.

Lew and Terry moved to Manassas, Virginia, in 1963. Terry got W4BFA and Lew was assigned WA4RPK through a bureaucratic error. Lew finally spoke up and became W4ZCY in 1968, and then K4VX.

In Manassas the Gordons had two towers; today in Missouri there are \*nine\* (with a tenth on the ground waiting to go up). They retired to land that has been in Lew's family for more than 170. Lew and his call sign are well-known among contesters and he still does his own tower work, including on the tallest, 170 ft.

\*(This is the first of what we plan to be a series of brief profiles of the ARRL Board of Directors family, beginning with those elected last month.)\*

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Marc Grant  
marcbg@netcom.com

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Date: 17 Dec 1993 14:51:43 GMT  
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!  
news.umbc.edu!haven.umd.edu!cville-srv.wam.umd.edu!ham@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: I'm a "young" enthusiast...  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm 24. I just recently celebrated the 9th anniversary of getting my license in the mail. I was always inclined to experiment with electronics, and I had my shortwave when I was 12, but...

Getting into ham radio has charted a great deal of my professional career to date. All through college (elec. engr.), I took a great interest in the study and solution of Maxwell's equations. E-M waves baffled most people. I could tell them that it really wasn't "magic" - OK, it kind of is - but that it's a part of everyday life that I could literally get my hands on and play with. I took communications theory classes when I could, and even an antenna theory course.

But what was REALLY neat was that I could go over to the radio club and play with RF - and talk all over the world. HANDS ON EXPERIENCE - the kind that wasn't taught in class.

I'm a CW addict and a DXaholic - and loving every minute. Run 5 watts off my car battery on Field Day; try QRPing because 100 watts is just too easy; work a repeater 300 miles away from my dorm room on 2 meter sporadic E with a 1/4 wave vertical on the windowsill; give an exam at least once a month; fix my own stuff if I can get the schematics; track the receive frequency of a DX station working split, and call for about an hour - and finally GET it!

If I just wanted to talk I'd use the phone or send e-mail.

--  
73,                    \_\_\_\_\_                    The  
         \ / Long    Original  
Scott Rosenfeld   Amateur Radio NF3I   Burtonsville, MD   |   Live    \$5.00  
         WAC-CW/SSB   WAS   DXCC - 119 QSLed on dipoles   \_\_\_\_\_ | Dipoles! Antenna!

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Date: 17 Dec 1993 13:48:39 GMT  
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!pipex!sunic!  
news.funet.fi!nntp.hut.fi!vipunen.hut.fi!jsi@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: rec.radio.amateur.propagation ?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I would very much like to see a new newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.propagation.

Am I the only one ? To me the newly created newsgroups .antenna, .equipment etc. are doing very well. The point is that the new groups create more discussion on these areas. Atleast I think so. Another thing is that it is much more convenient to read these groups since they are not loaded with stuff you are not interested. Or is there a propagation newsgroup I haven't found yet ?

Jukka OH6DD

-----  
Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 13:53:34 GMT  
From: world!cravit@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Where are all the young enthusiasts?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2er4on\$f1b@wuecl.wustl.edu>,  
Jesse L Wei <jlw3@cec3.wustl.edu> wrote:  
>

>btw, even at the amateur radio club at my university,there are  
>perhaps 50 operators with keys to the shack--not too much for a  
>school with > 5000 undergrads and who-knows-how-many-more grads.  
>But at least the school has facilities!!!

OTOH, the Amateur Radio club at Michigan State University (~43,000 students) has less than 30 members. And, at least we have facilities, too.

/Matthew (Callsign to go here, 5 weeks and counting.)

--  
Matthew Cravit | All opinions expressed here are  
Michigan State University | my own. I don't speak for The World,  
East Lansing, MI 48825 | and they don't speak for me (luckily  
E-Mail: cravit@world.std.com | for both of us).

-----  
Date: (null)  
From: (null)  
SB PROP ARL ARLP050  
ARLP050 Propagation de KT7H

Average solar flux was down this past week by about 13 points compared to the previous period. Geomagnetic conditions were stable until the 16th when K indices reached four. Conditions are expected to remain unstable for a day or so.

This week solar flux should slowly start rising toward a peak near 105 around January 6. There is a chance of some disturbed conditions around December 28.

Sunspot Numbers from December 9 through 15 were 79, 60, 59, 33, 22, 36 and 23, with a mean of 44.6. 10.7 cm flux was 98.4, 96.1, 92.5, 90.9, 87.8, 87.9 and 85.4, with a mean of 91.3.

The path projection for this week is from Las Vegas, Nevada to Chile.

80 meters looks good from 0030 to 1030z, with the best conditions from 0300 to 0900. 40 meters looks good from 0000 to 1130, with best signals from 0130 to 0930. 30 meters should be good from 2330 to 1200, with best conditions from 0100 to 1000. 20 meters looks good from 2030 to 0130. On a few days 20 could be open as early as 1300 and as late as 1100, or nearly around the clock. 17 meters looks promising from 1500 to 0030, and 15 meters from 1530 to 0000. 10 and 12 meters look good from 1700 to 2330, with openings as early as 1500 and as late as 0100 on some days.

NNNN

/EX

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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 14:48:08 GMT  
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!cs.utexas.edu!swrinde!news.dell.com!pmafire!boojum!mamie.lanl.gov!user@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <CI3G07.1Cv@news.udel.edu>, <CI3KDB.CK2@srgenprp.sr.hp.com>, <1993Dec17.040303.16513@mnemosyne.cs.du.edu>m  
Subject : Re: Optimum call sign for CW/contests?

I've been very happy with my call on CW: KJ5LT. It has a nice rythm that seems to get noticed in a pileup. Also, it is a bit longer than the really short calls, so I am often among the last to finish a call.

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Date: Sat, 18 Dec 1993 15:03:41 GMT  
From: news.uiowa.edu!icaen!drenze@uunet.uu.net  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <drew.95.0@trl.oz.au>, <2er4on\$f1b@wuecl.wustl.edu>, <CI5usE.KI5@usenet.ucs.indiana.edu>europa.e  
Subject : Re: Where are all the young enthusiasts?

dbasinge@nickel.ucs.indiana.edu (Mike Basinger) writes:

>It seems (especially on the net) the ham is a older man's hobby. A lot  
>of hams have a reputation of sitting around at club meetings talking  
>about the set-up they have at home. The local meeting I did goto was a  
>talk about one of the members antenna systems he had 15 years ago. It  
>was somewhat interesting, but I don't see that exciting to many young  
>people to join.

Agreed. We need to make Amateur Radio interesting to the younger crowd  
(well, I guess at 23, I \*am\* part of that younger crowd, but...) but how?

>The main reasons the ham may be losing popularity with young people is  
>1. The excitement of talking to people from different areas and  
>foreign countries can now be done via a home computer (much many  
>households have anyways).

One way to integrate the excitement of amateur radio with the computer  
revolution is to stress sme of the hi-tek aspects of the Amtateur Radio  
Service (I can hear some OT's groaning out there...). Many of the more  
popular online services have net e-mail access (and one or two o them  
hve more thn that). These services could very easily be paralleled in  
amateur radio (and they are!). Why aren't non-amateurs aware that we're  
more than just a bunch of OFs who sit around pounding brass?

>2. More people live in cities now. What is worse, more people live in  
>apartments. Not many people can set-up fancy rigs with huge antennas  
>in an apartment building (I have asked :-). This limits people to the  
>hand-held jobbies, that most newbies will get from Radio Shack (so  
>that is only 2-Meter band and 440MHz I think).

This is part of the "Amateur Radio == QRO" syndrome. If you have an apartment  
with a balcony, you can easily set up a vertical whip, such as a Texas Bug-  
catcher. You can also drop off a random wire. If you have a clothesline,  
you can run several different sized dipoles out on it, depending on how  
big it is. You also don't \*need\* that fancy YACOM-9000 with 256 memories,  
1.5MHz-2.4GHz coverage, electronic keyer, and built-in coffee maker. My HF  
rig is a vintage 1970 Heathkit HW-101. It suits me, though I'm saving my  
nickles and dimes to buy a newer one. As for power? Why do you need to  
put out 1.5kW? 25-100W out is enough to contact anyplace in the world if  
you've got the patience.

>Things that will help is when you can buy a multi-band hand-held radio  
>for a fairly good price. And maybe when packet-radio and SSTV catch on  
>more ham will re-gain popularity.

Already possible. Check hamfests and let local amateurs know what you're

looking for. You'll find one.

Now, I've got one question for everybody: Why isn't amateur radio *\*actively pitched\** to the younger crowd? For instance, just after I'd earned my first license, I visited my parents. I took my code-practice oscillator with me to work on my speed. My two sisters found it in my car (ages 14 and 11). They thought it was so *\*neat\**! So I bought them a key and guess what? We're well on our way to having at least two more hams in the family (it wouldn't surprise me if they're dragging *\*mom\** into it too, to help them study...then *\*dad\**'ll crumble soon enough, and I'm working on my other sister...*\*cackles gleefully\**).

But why have I never seen Amateur Radio operators go into schools and pitch their interest (or at least in this area)? There're all sorts of neat and nifty things like SAREX (what technology-dazzled kid wouldn't love to hear directly from the *\*space shuttle\** and see SSTV images, maybe some ATV and even have the remote chance of *\*talking back\**?), SSTV, packet, ATV...all of those would rivet kids to their seats...and if you could manage somehow to snag a DX contact for a little more than just a standard DX exchange, that'd really be something!

Why aren't we targeting educators? Amateur radio has tremendous potential for use in education, whether assisting in science classes (even if only providing a means of remotely-monitoring nifty things like weather experiments in Earth sciences classes), social studies classes (want to learn about what it's really like in Outer Patagonia? Try to set up a sched with a ham there to talk with your class!) or mathematics (using studying for an amateur radio exam as an avenue of teaching practical (and hopefully interesting) concepts in mathematics). I know the NAR (National Association of Rocketry--the largest interest group for model rocketry) has programs which specifically target educators with the idea of using model rocketry in the classroom to help teach such concepts as aerodynamics, newton's laws, etc. Does the ARRL or any similar organization have such a program? Do they *\*push\** them, that is, make educators *\*aware\** that they exist? Why not?

I see people asking, "Where are all the young people?" But when I look around, I have to ask in return, "What are you doing to go out and *\*get\** the young people?" Face it: Unless *\*we\** go out and make it interesting for them, we're not going to catch their attention in this decade of 30-second sound bytes and MTV videos. I think it's "73" that has the blurb on their contents page which goes something like, "By reading this, you're agreeing to introduce one young person to amateur radio in the next month." Well, I earned my license 4 months ago, got it in the mail two months ago. In that four months, I've gotten three young people interested in amateur radio.

I challenge each and every one of you to do the same.

73, Doug N0YVW

BTW, as a very technologically-oriented group of people, we Internet-hammers are in a unique position to snag young people, to snag college freshmen,

to snag bright new minds coming into our companies. Let's not blow it!

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__ /| | Doug Renze, N0YVW      | Don't believe what your eyes are telling
\'o.o' | +1 319 339 7814      | you! All they show is limitation. Look
=(___)= | drenze@icaen.uiowa.edu | with your understanding, find out what you
  U     | Douglas-Renze@uiowa.edu | already know, and you'll see the way to fly.
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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 14:16:01 GMT  
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!pipex!Q.icl.co.uk!dsbc!  
iclbra!prs@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <CI3G07.1Cv@news.udel.edu>, <CI3KDB.CK2@srgenprp.sr.hp.com>,  
<2epudj\$lmn@oak.oakland.edu>dsbc  
Subject : Re: Optimum call sign for CW/contests?

In article <2epudj\$lmn@oak.oakland.edu>, prvalko@vela.acs.oakland.edu (prvalko)  
writes:

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> The cool thing regarding vanity calls is that you DO NOT have to get a
> three-land call! You can buy any cool call you can afford.
>
> Last time I looked in the server, K9DOG was still being used. <G>
>
> I wonder who will buy WB00ZE? Certainly not a tea-tottaer!
>
>
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I've got a friend locally .. his call 2E1BZE - we call him B00ZE !

73 Peter G0 PUB :-)

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--... ..-- .. . --. .... .--. ...- -... -.- (Pub Inspector)  
Peter Swynford is available... TEL: +44 344 472625 FAX: +44 344 473300  
or at prs@oasis.icl.co.uk ICL: 7263-2625 AX25: G0PUB@GB7BEQ.GBR.EU  
Disclaimer: See Paragraph 2.4.a of section 1.a (article 7) (iii) of the  
Town and Country Planning Act, 1967.  
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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1483

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